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CASE OF TYPHUS FEVER, WITH INFLAMMATION OF THE TONSILS.

By Edward Warren, M.D.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

JULY 24th.—I was called to visit a little girl, 9 years of age, who had been exceedingly delicate and feeble from childhood. For several years after birth, the foramen ovale of the heart had remained open; and her life was prolonged with extreme difficulty.

During the last winter, she had an attack of scarlet fever, which left her with inflammation and enlargement of the tonsils; so great as, at times, to threaten suffocation. She went through a course of various remedies during the winter; and in the spring she was brought to me to prescribe for her, for the first time. I directed a gargle of muriatic acid, which she used for some weeks, to the entire relief of all the distressing symptoms.

On my visit (July 24th) I found she had been taken ill at school the day before, complained of feeling very cold, and was sent home. She had had a cough for several weeks previous. On coming home from school a dose of rhubarb was given by her parents, but without benefit. When I saw her, the symptoms were languor, slight pain in the back, vomiting, difficult breathing and cough. The pulse was not full or hard, but rapid and decidedly of the typhus character. The danger of allowing symptoms of pneumonia to remain unchecked in so delicate a girl, as well as the tendency to vomit, decided me upon giving an antimonial emetic. I directed half a grain of antimony to be given in a tablespoonful of water, every ten minutes, until vomiting ensued. The emetic operated ten or eleven times, and was succeeded by a cathartic operation. She was so little exhausted by these operations, that she walked readily from one room to another without assistance.

On the next morning, the 25th, I found the cough and dyspnœa subsided. The good effect of the emetic was evident in the relief of these symptoms. On placing my ear to the chest, there was no abnormal sound. The breathing was the gentle, regular and unobstructed respiration of an adult. The pulse, however, was unchanged. She was lying on the sofa very quiet, but not apparently dull or languid. There was still some irritability of the stomach. I now gave simply a febrifuge mixture of nitrous ether, paregoric and antimony; and a Dover's powder at bed-time.

The next day, July 26th, I found her very much the same. She was still lying on the sofa; there was still the same typhoid pulse unaltered, and the same quietude and absence of all other symptoms.

27th.—Complains now of soreness of the throat. Pulse as yesterday. As the stomach continued irritable, and the bowels were costive, I gave five grains of submuriate, to be followed by oil, and an injection, if no operation.

28th.—After the medicines and injection had a very free operation. I found her nearly the same as yesterday. The tonsils are now somewhat troublesome. I visited her in the evening, and found her not so well; and her breathing was laborious. The fact, however, of her having so often suffered from this cause more severely, made me think less of this symptom than if it had been a novel one. The steady continuance of the same character of the pulse unchanged, small, and quick, however, made me anxious.

On the 29th, about 2 o'clock in the morning, I was desired to see her as speedily as possible, as she showed urgent symptoms of suffocation. On examining the throat, I found the tonsils greatly swollen, filling up the passage. Her mind was clear, and she spoke in a whisper. The pulse was still rapid, but it was now the full, strong pulse of inflammation. I scarified the tumor on the right side which was the largest, and there was a discharge of pus, with some temporary relief. I directed a mustard poultice to be applied hot to the throat, and the steam of hot vinegar to be inhaled from the nose of a teapot. The latter direction, however, was not carried into effect.

I repeated my visit about 7, A. M., and found her in the same condition. The parents now proposed to send for Dr. James, the experienced physician of Weston, who had attended the patient in infancy, to meet me in consultation, to which I readily assented.

Dr. James saw her with me about 10, A. M., and examined the throat as well as the general symptoms. He considered the general affection as most important; and agreed with me that the case was one of extreme danger, though not desperate. He advised the freer use of antimonials, the exhibition of an injection, Dover's powder, ammoniated liniment to the neck, and vitriolic drinks.

The injection operated well. She took the medicine and drinks without difficulty, and without their exciting vomiting or nausea; but there was no relief of the distress. I was sent for about 4, P. M., as it had increased. I found her still perfectly conscious, lying most of the time with her mouth open, the head low and stretched back, countenance livid, blueness about the nose, &c. I carried with me an inhaler, and exhibited, in this manner, the steam of hot water, which she was able to draw in, by her own efforts, on being directed to do so. I had ordered inhalation in the morning, but as I did not attend to its performance, it was neglected. It seemed now to give some slight relief, but the patient was evidently beyond the reach of medical treatment. She died about 10, P. M.

Inflammation of the tonsils is not in general considered as a dangerous

disease. It most generally terminates favorably, either by resolution or suppuration. During the prevalence of scarlatina anginosa in the spring of 1845, I had some twenty cases, all of which terminated favorably, though in one or two, the symptoms proceeded to such a degree, that immediate suffocation seemed imminent; but relief occurred by the breaking of the abscess and discharge of pus.

Dr. Gregory states, that cynanche tonsillaris is not dangerous, unless the enlargement of the tonsils causes them to press upon the glottis and produce spasm.

December 11th, 1846.

PROF. PAINE'S ADDRESS.*

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

Sir,—Observing in a recent No. of your Journal an extract from Prof. Paine's late Valedictory Address to the graduating class of the New York University, entitled "A Defence," &c., I deem it my duty to ask a brief space in your pages for a reply. I do this for several reasons. First, because the address or "defence" contains many errors and misrepresentations; second, it *slanders*, instead of defends the medical profession of its author's own State; third, it inculcates unsound doctrines; and, fourth, because it would be manifestly unfair to wholly neglect the production of one who, not only "for the third time stands up *alone*, in the broad expanse of America, in an open *defence* of the *honor* and dignity of the profession of which he is a humble member;" but who is also so exceedingly *liberal* as to publish this *third* defence, at his *own expense*, in numerous *editions*, and directs them with his own hand to every physician within the sphere of his knowledge, whether in Europe or America, thereby leaving the reader to infer that it had met with an unprecedentedly rapid and extensive sale.

It will be remembered that previous to the meeting of the National Medical Convention, in May last, two or three articles were published in the New York Journal of Medicine, over the signature of N. S. D., relating to the present condition of the medical profession, and the necessity of some reforms. These articles Prof. Paine, in his "defence," represents as "duly authorized" emanations from the "Chairman of the Committee of the New York State Medical Society," instead of being simply the private views of the writer. And to sustain his position, he makes the following quotation from the article in the November No. of the New York Journal:—"There is, at present, a fair prospect for a *full* and *animated* convention. This being the case, we (the committee) hope it will not be deemed out of place for us to write," &c. My language in the Journal is as follows:—"We are *assured* that the *committee* to whom the subject has been entrusted, have been, and still are, actively engaged in the performance of *their* duties; and that there is at present

* "A Defence of the Medical Profession in the United States," by Martyn Paine, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the University of New York.

a fair prospect for a full and animated convention. This being the case, we hope it will not be deemed out of place for us to write," &c. Is it possible that the learned Professor commenced his quotation in the middle of a sentence, and *interpolated* the words "the committee" in brackets, for the *purpose* of perverting my language and meaning? Again, on pages 14, 21, 22, of the "defence," I am charged with having accused "ninety-nine out of every hundred" of my professional brethren of being in a state of "*abject ignorance*," and "unable to write their own names." And to sustain this charge, on page 21 he uses the following language, viz., "But since he ..... pronounces '*ninety-nine out of every hundred*' of the American medical profession as deficient in the elements of an *English* education—so deficient, he says, that when admitted as medical students it was '*no matter if their primary education should not enable them to write their own names.*'" Here the *defender* of our profession has brought together, and Italicized, two quotations from me, as though I had used them in connection; and in several other places he puts together the same expressions. Indeed, he devotes a whole page to the important object of proving that the *whole* graduating class in the New York University *can* write their own names. Now, when the reader is informed that the phrase "ninety-nine out of every hundred" is quoted from the New York Journal of Medicine for November, 1845, where it relates *solely* to the deficient acquirements of young men in "*practical*" *chemistry* and *botany, anatomy, physiology* and *pathology*, without the remotest reference to "English" or primary education; and that the other paragraph, "no matter if *their* primary education should not enable *them* to write *their* own names," is quoted from the same Journal for January, 1846, where it stands in the following connection: "In regard to remedies for the present defects in our system of education, first of all, and at the *foundation* of all, we place more care on the part of *individual* practitioners concerning the capacity and qualifications of young men whom they receive into their offices as students. No one can have failed to notice the almost total neglect everywhere apparent in this respect. Whoever takes a notion to study medicine, no matter if his primary education should not enable him to write his own name intelligibly, much less to understand a single branch of natural science, and his intellectual faculties naturally as dull as the sleepiest drone in the country, he is readily received into *some* office," &c.; what inference can be draw from the many changes rung, by Prof. Paine through one half of his entire "defence," on these two paragraphs so linked together as to wholly destroy their original meaning? Can the reader find *where* I have "pronounced 'ninety-nine out of every hundred' of the American medical profession as deficient in the elements of an English education"? Or can he find *where* I have denied that not "more than *one* in a hundred of you" (the graduates of the New York University) "are able to write your own names"? We would not be uncharitable, but truly such miserable perversions of one's language, and such misrepresentations of the sentiments of others, would disgrace a fourth-rate pettifogging lawyer in a justice's court.

Not only is the "defence" filled with such perversions and misrepresentations as already noticed, but it betrays on the part of its author the most inexcusable ignorance in regard to the transactions of the New York State Medical Society, as well as the published opinions of its members. Thus, on pages 14 and 15, we find the following language, viz.: "And this leads me, reluctantly, to notice the remarkable fact, that amidst all the outcry about medical colleges, *not a word* has ever been alleged against those numerous 'hoppers' which exist in the shape of 'Censors' of State and County Medical Societies. Not a word, gentlemen; for that would be the *outs* against themselves." Verily, this able *defender* of the medical profession must have just awoke from a "Rip-Van-Winkle nap," during which the doings of the profession in this State, for the last four or five years, were entirely lost. I hope, for the sake of historical truth, that he will take the trouble to look over the annual volume of Transactions published by the State Society during the last five or six years, before he "incorporates" this paragraph in his proposed "Sketch of the History of the Medical Department of the University." He will there find, to his surprise, no doubt, that these same "*outs*" have not only spoken *words* concerning the abolishment of *County Censors*, but have also taken decided *action*, both in the State Society, and in a large number of the County Societies in this State. Indeed, there has not been a more universal topic of discussion in the profession of this State, during the last five years, than the proposition to abandon wholly the appointment of County Censors.

Many other equally inexcusable errors might be pointed out in the address before us; but I have neither time nor space at present. I must, however, give a passing notice to the learned Professor's criticism on my "*orthography*." He quotes a sentence or two from a letter of mine to show that the common words *notice*, *unanimously* and *annual*, were spelled wrong; and at the same time he quotes the signature to the letter thus, "J. N. Davis." Now we seriously doubt whether the man who cannot tell the capitals N. S. from J. N., can tell a small *s* from a *c*, or a *y* from an *i*. At least I will offset my *orthography* against the learned Professor's *geography;* for on page 7th he says "the project, &c., originated with a *young* man, in the *Township* of *Binghampton*." It so happens, however, that there is *no* such *Township* in the State of New York. There is a village of *Binghamton*, not Binghampton, situated in the Township of Chenango and County of Broome.

But I have said that the "defence" *slanders* the medical profession of the author's own State. On page 20th is found the following paragraph, among others no less modest and refined. "Nor would I invite an investigation of this nature, ... were those members of the State Medical Society, who annually convene at Albany, and do the *mining* operations, more than a *bare handful* of the '*outs*,' and were they not so erroneously supposed to represent the voice of the profession." And such choice epithets as "traducers," "maligners," "wire-pullers," "miners," "outs," &c., are found freely applied to our State Society and its members throughout the "*defence*." Now, when we look over

the published Transactions of the New York State Medical Society, and there learn *who* have *annually* sacrificed their time and money to assemble at Albany, and who have been and still are its most active and efficient members, the profession both at home and abroad will be able to properly appreciate the *defensive* labors of Prof. Paine. The meeting of the Society last preceding the appearance of Prof. Paine's address, was composed of five professors in medical colleges, seven permanent members, and twenty-seven delegates from as many County Societies distributed over the whole State from Erie to New York, and from Jefferson to Broome. Among these are found the names of T. R. Beck, Willard Parker, McNaughton, Blatchford, Wing, Wendell, McCall, Webster, McClellan, and many others that would suffer nothing by a comparison even with that of the renowned author of "*My Medical and Physiological Commentaries.*" Such are a few of the men who, according to Prof. Paine, "annually convene at Albany and do the *mining* operations."

But the New York State Medical Society needs neither defence or eulogy beyond that afforded by its own doings. Indeed, Prof. Paine might have spared himself the use of many of his *classical* terms, had he taken the trouble to inform himself of the doings of the Society of which he speaks with so much freedom. He would have found among its *Transactions* as valuable contributions to medical science, and as *truthful defences* of our time-honored profession, as ever came from his own pen. If such a profusion of vulgar and opprobrious epithets applied to his own professional brethren were necessary to Prof. Paine's "Defence of the Medical Profession of the United States," we say in all candor "save us from such defenders."

Those portions of the address to which we have not already alluded, are chiefly occupied in fulsome and sickening eulogies on the class he is addressing; in frequent allusions to what the great *defender* has previously done; and in showing what no one on this side of the Atlantic disputes, viz., that American practitioners, as a class, are, in practical energy and skill, far ahead of their European brethren. Whether the tone and temper of the address is either becoming the dignity of its author, or calculated to benefit medical science, I shall leave each member of the profession to judge for himself. Concerning the unsoundness of its doctrines, I shall make room but for one quotation; and that from the last page, as follows:—"And, finally, gentlemen, when you have reached the hall of refreshment, and your weariness, after my long discourse, shall have subsided into the merriment of *song*, let a *glass* be devoted to your Alma Mater, and a *voice* go forth that shall strike dismay into every heart that meditates her wrong." And is it possible that in this forty-sixth year of the nineteeth century, there is to be found a learned occupant of one "of the one hundred and eighty professorial chairs of this country," who not only sanctions but directly recommends to the young men under his care the merry *song*, the intoxicating *glass*, and the *voice* of revelry? Are such the weapons to be used for the *defence* of the University of New York? If

so, let the philanthropist blush, and the lover of his profession hang his head. When I first read the paragraph quoted, I rubbed my eyes, and verily thought they had deceived me; for my mind quickly turned back to the day when I bid adieu to my own Alma Mater; and the noble sentiments to which I listened in that last valedictory, came crowding on my memory. However, I hope no one "meditates wrong" to the University; I certainly do not. But I can assure Professor Paine that my ear has too often been pained by the sound of bacchanalian revelry, and I have too long fought the monster *tyrant* that lurks in the "glass," to be "dismayed" by either the one or the other.

And now, in conclusion, let me ask why it is that the name of that "young man in the *Township* of Bingham-*p*-ton," has been made the standing *text* for introductory and valedictory addresses, in certain quarters? Have I assailed the medical colleges? Can a single opprobrious epithet applied to any one, or all of them, be found in all that I have said or written? Certainly not. It is true that I, together with many others, have thought our present system of medical education defective; and that some measures of reform might be adopted with great benefit to the profession and to mankind. Of these defects, and the principles on which reforms should be based, I have spoken and written freely and boldly, as every American citizen has a right to do. That in doing this I have in one or two instances used a too sweeping phraseology, is undoubtedly true. But so far from having commenced a "crusade against the medical colleges," I have laid the foundation and source of the principal evils in another and entirely different quarter, and have ever contended that what evils are connected with the colleges, are the result of defects in the system, and not of intentional delinquency on the part of those who so ably fill the various professorial chairs. All this is abundantly shown by a single quotation made by Prof. Paine himself. Again, if I had commenced a "crusade against the colleges," does any one suppose me so great a *fool*, that I would have moved the call for a *National Convention* in such *terms*, that if the said call was responded to, these same colleges would almost necessarily hold a preponderating influence in said convention. This would have been calling on the colleges to carry on a "crusade" against themselves. No; I cast the charge back on those with whom it originated. I have advocated the principles and views which I have, merely because I deemed them of importance to the future well-being of my profession; and I asked for a National Convention, because I had full faith in the maxim that "*Truth*, when left free to combat error, is mighty and will prevail." If, in any or all things, I have erred, in candor let that error be shown, and it shall be cheerfully abandoned. But until then, neither criticism, nor orthography, nor opprobrious epithets, nor misrepresentations, nor even the stentorian "*voice*" produced by draining a "*glass*" to the Alma Mater, will deter me from pursuing my course onward—right on.

Binghamton, N. Y., Nov. 21st, 1846. N. S. Davis.

ETHEREAL VAPOR.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

Sir,—I have read with much interest the report signed by twelve of the regular dentists of our city, on the subject of the use of vapor of ether to prevent the consciousness of pain in surgical and dentistical operations. This report was presented when the public were earnestly seeking for information on the subject, and at a time, as it seems to me, when the evils which have occurred, and the ignorant use or abuse of the discovery to which it relates, rendered a fair exposition of the matter highly desirable and necessary. It awards the discovery to Dr. C. T. Jackson, sets forth its promising advantages in general surgery, but shows that its *common* or *frequent use* in dentistry will be unwarrantable on account of the deleterious effects which have already followed its application; such as in the cases there detailed. The first case—"a young lady—much agitated before taking the gas at Mr. Morton's; pulse 130—after taking it, fell to 70; eyes injected; frothing at mouth; general appearance like one going into a state of epilepsy. For some time much confused—several hours after, said that when the tooth was coming out, felt as if she was having a horrid dream." Second case:—"a young man, appeared to have much suffering, throwing his body almost from the chair. Pulse rose to 150 while inhaling; eyes injected; respiration laboring." Third case:—"Miss D. took the ether and had a tooth out without pain. Left Mr. M.'s room about 12 o'clock; at 1 o'clock, after she got home, was taken delirious. This lasted all night; next morning raised blood from lungs—about a pint; was suffering in consequence of the operation three days after." Fourth case:—"Miss R. was strangely excited, but had a tooth out and felt no pain. Was taken delirious soon after she left Mr. M.'s room, in a shop, had to be carried home, and remained in that state for three days, in great restlessness, and friends afraid to leave her alone."

These cases I do not quote exactly and fully, but only the prominent symptoms. I daily hear of others equally serious. A young man, clerk in a store in Hanover street, returned to the store a few days since, after being absent some two or three hours, rushed violently in from the street and across the store, then out again and returning, till he at last fell senseless on the floor. When roused sufficiently, he said he had taken the ether at Mr. M.'s, and had a tooth out; did not know where he had been since, nor how he had reached the store, having been, as it appears, perfectly delirious. Was confined to the house all the day following, and the ill effects lasted several days. A young woman, aged 18 years, took the ether in Salem, from a dentist who bought the *patented privilege*. She had a tooth extracted without pain, and was delighted with the operation. A week after, repeated the experiment at the same place; inhaled the vapor, but when the operation was commenced, consciousness was so restored that she had great pain from the drawing of the tooth; her head immediately felt confused and painful. She did not know how or when she returned home—whether alone or with some one to guide. She was much agitated, weeping and sighing, and did not re-

cover from the effects in all the next day. Similar cases are daily coming to my knowledge, and the hazard attending the inhalation of ethereal vapor is such that no one should be exposed to it without being warned of the danger of incurring a greater evil in the attempt to avoid a less.

This report goes on to say—"We feel, therefore, that this whole matter, be it of greater or less value in surgical practice, should be in the hands of those only who have testimonials from some one of our medical colleges, that they are worthy of being entrusted, as medical attendants, with the health and life of their fellow beings." It suggests, also, "that as is done in similar cases by learned societies in Europe, the whole subject be given to a competent committee, appointed by the Massachusetts Medical Society or the Boston Association of Physicians and Surgeons, to investigate and report thereon. It is moreover stated in the report, on the authority of competent legal judges, that there is nothing patentable in the whole affair. The important discovery—the new thought—of Dr. Jackson, was that of bringing the well-known medical effects of vapor of ether and the surgeon's knife into close combination for the prevention of human suffering. A valuable thought it may prove to be indeed, which the report seems duly to encourage and appreciate.

This is but a passing glance at the most prominent points in the report. Those who would know more of its details, are referred to the Boston Daily Advertiser of Saturday, the 12th inst., the Courier of the 16th inst., and the other papers of a later date. The subject is one on which the people should be correctly informed; for however much of good shall attend the use of the ether in important and painful cases of surgery, it is fraught with too much of danger to be given on all trivial occasions. The well-informed and honest dentist will use it but seldom. The whole report deserves to be kept before the public in some of our journals, till all whom it concerns shall have opportunity to read it.

December 31, 1846. A PHYSICIAN.

"IMPURE HOMŒOPATHY."

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—In No. 21 of your valuable Journal you treated your readers with a slice from the Journal of Homœopathy, of New York, in relation to an article of Nov. 11th, entitled "Homœopathy in Europe." Said article, it seems, offered a grand opportunity to the editors of the New York Homœopathic Journal to attack their eye-sore, the so-called "impure" homœopathy." Will the editors please let us know what "pure homœopathy is. Every physician of *sense* knows that there are cases where bleeding, emetics, cathartics, revulsive and antipathic measures are the "judicatio proxima." To make use of them in such cases at least, is rational and scientific. The editors either know but little about the literature of homœopathy, especially about the rational "impure" school, which is by-the-by very rich, or are pledged to remain in *statu quo Hahnemanni*. The new school of homœopathy is a progressive school,

which uses its own judgment, follows the dictates of reason and experience; and as the catechism of the "pure homœopathy, the Organon," cannot stand those merciless investigators, it must fall with its absurdities and hypotheses, and leave the foundation clear and clean for a new and stronger edifice. To see men, like Griepelich, Schron, Trinks, Werber, Arnold, and a host of other physicians of the highest literary attainments in Germany, and of an eminence which any attempt to reach would cause the bursting of the bumps of self-esteem of the New York editors, termed "ignorants, hypocrites, mongrels," is too ridiculous and contemptible to take notice of. I readily believe, with the editors, that none of the "eminent physicians" of Germany were present at the homœopathic congress at Leipzig, as the annual meetings on that day are considered a feeble attempt to uphold Hahnemannism, from which the "eminent physicians" of Germany have long detached themselves, being all "very, very impure." I hope those who were present will pass a vote of thanks to the editors of the New York Journal of Homœopathy for the compliment received. Jos. B., AN "IMPURE" HOMŒOPATHIST,

December, 1846. *but used to be as pure as crystal.*

DR. BEDFORD'S INTRODUCTORY LECTURE.*

[Communicated for the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.]

THE commonness of introductory lectures, and the frequency of their publication at the instance of grateful pupils in our medical schools, precludes the practicability of their being separately subjected to review, or even critical notice, in our professional journals; although many of them are annually published which are highly meritorious. But we occasionally find in these ephemeral publications matter of grave public interest, and, as in this instance, illustrative facts of great practical value.

Dr. Bedford's chosen subject in this Introductory is the intricacy of those diseases which are peculiar to females; and selecting a few of the more prominent of these, he has sought therefrom to indoctrinate his pupils into a just estimate of the importance of discrimination in their diagnosis, as preliminary to discreet or successful treatment. The blunders of that class of the profession, significantly denominated "symptom doctors," and the source of the fallacies of which they are the dupes, while their patients are the victims, are skilfully portrayed; while sound pathological knowledge in rational science is exhibited as the only and all-sufficient remedy.

Another point here elaborated, and one no less important because lying at the basis of all obstetric science, and pre-eminently valuable in the discrimination and treatment of the diseases of the sex, is that of the due recognition of the reproductive function as the *centrum mobile* of all that chain of vital sympathies, which characterize the female constitution.

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* Lecture, Introductory to a Course on Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, delivered October 30th, 1846, by Gunning S. Bedford, M.D., Professor in the University of New York.

For, as is here made apparent, multiplied forms of disease, in proximate and even in remote structures and tissues of the system, are either originated by, or complicated with, a pathological condition of the uterus. So that in morbid states, whether organic or functional, occurring in females, this organ will be found primarily to be the source of the mischief, or secondarily participating in its results and modifying the symptoms, a consideration which is all important for enlightened medication.

A most salutary caution is here given, and practically enforced by very happy illustration, against the careless and off-hand mode of prescribing for disease, too common among a large class of practitioners, without due inquiry and patient investigation into the true pathological state. The liability to be misled, especially in discriminating the diseases of females; and the reasons for such liability, growing out of the partial and inaccurate descriptions to which the natural modesty of the sex so often prompt them, concealing even their acute sufferings, lest the disclosure should wound their characteristic delicacy, are dwelt upon with proper feeling and force. And it is thence taught with great propriety, that the most careful scrutiny into the etiology of every such case of disease is demanded, if we would sustain the honor of the profession, or merit the confidence of our patients.

Upon the subject of *fluor albus*, so called, and *prolapsus uteri*, there will be found in this lecture numerous hints of great practical value, while the criticisms upon the prevalent and popular fallacies of the day, in regard to this class of maladies, are in keeping with the teachings of modern science. The rebuke here administered to the fashionable quackery, which diagnosticates prolapsus everywhere, and prates of uterine "dislocations" even in unmarried and young females, subjecting such to manipulations as unprofessional as unwarrantable, is not more severe, than it is well merited. In denominating such empirics, either knaves or monomaniacs, he leaves the latter horn of the dilemma for the few, if such there be, who can escape the former allegation of knavery. One thing is certain, if any of them claim to be mad, there is "method in their madness" in the methodical exaction of their fees.

In the following narrative the lecturer describes a case of stricture in the *female* urethra, a very rare disease, and which had been treated *secundum artem* as a prolapsus uteri.

"During the last winter, I was requested to visit professionally a married lady from the State of New Jersey. The history of her case was simple, and to the following effect:—In June, 1842, she experienced uneasiness in the region of the womb, and slight pain in passing water. There was more or less discharge of mucus from the vagina, and sexual intercourse occasioned at times great distress. These were the incipient and only symptoms of her malady. A physician was consulted, and immediately pronounced the disease *to be falling of the womb*. Pessaries were introduced—abdominal supporters were applied, but without affording any relief to the suffering patient; whilst, on the contrary, the pessaries tended to aggravate the pain by the pressure they exerted on the seat of disease. Another practitioner was consulted, and reiterated the

opinion already advanced. Having continued under his care for more than ten months, without deriving the slightest benefit, and experiencing a positive increase in her sufferings—the pain and difficulty in passing water becoming more aggravated—she resolved to visit the city of New York in search of professional advice. She arrived here in December last, and I was requested to see her. On hearing the history of the case, I frankly told her that I did not believe she had *falling of the womb*, for the simple reason that her symptoms were not characteristic of any such ailment. I proposed an examination, which was cheerfully consented to, as the lady was most solicitous to obtain relief. The uterus I found in a perfectly healthy condition and in its natural position. In passing my finger along the *urethra*, the patient experienced a sensation of pain, and this circumstance, together with the difficulty of which she complained in passing water, attracted my attention especially to this point. I could detect no disease in the uterus or vagina; in attempting to introduce an ordinary female catheter into the urethra I was completely foiled; and, on minutely examining the condition of this passage, I discovered that the lady's sufferings were entirely due to a *stricture of the urethra. Stricture of the female urethra* I had never seen previously to this occasion; and, as far as my knowledge extends, no case of the kind had ever occurred in this country; at least, no record has been made of it. Velpeau, in his great work, cites but three cases of *stricture of the female urethra*, and remarks that its occurrence is extremely rare. In the course of three months I succeeded in removing the stricture, and the lady returned to her home entirely restored to health. It is proper for me to observe that Drs. Detmold and Satchwell visited this patient with me on two occasions, and heard from her own lips the statement which she made of what had occurred previously to my seeing her."

In addition to this, we find still another case related, illustrating the same blunder, an ulcer in the urethra, mistreated for prolapsus, which, as it might serve to protect the profession from the common error of precipitate diagnosis and hap-hazard practice, would be worth recording here, if our limits would permit.

After a just and indignant remonstrance upon the popular errors in physical education, and the violation of the laws of health and life of which young females are the victims, by the misjudged training of fashionable society, and an apt exposition of the physical and moral mischief thus entailed upon the sex by parental indiscretion, the lecturer proceeds by glancing at the responsibilities in this department of the profession especially. And here we find the history of one of a thousand instances, in which that vilest of all impostors, mesmerism, is shown in its true character. The case is too truthful and important to be omitted, and might well be repeated through the public press.

"Some time since, a lady of great intelligence from one of our western cities visited New York for the purpose of seeking professional advice. Soon after her arrival in this city I was requested to see her; and, after listening to the history of her case, I became satisfied that she labored under a formidable disease of the womb. Without, however, expressing any

opinion, I left her with the promise that I would see her on the following day, and then give her my views of her case. Accordingly, after a careful examination, I discovered that this lady was affected with *ulcerative carcinoma;* and being strenuously urged, both by herself and friends, not to disguise my opinion, but to state unequivocally whether there was any hope of recovery, I frankly remarked that her disease was beyond permanent relief; and all that could be done would be to palliate her sufferings. This opinion was received with extraordinary firmness by the patient; and, as I thought, with some degree of doubt both by herself and friends. After continuing my visits for a week, it was very evident, from certain manifestations, that some influence had been at work to destroy confidence in my judgment; and the patient expressed with great kindness, yet with decision, her strong belief that I was in error in reference to her disease. Under these circumstances, the course for me to pursue was a very obvious one; and I, therefore, suggested that other counsel should be taken, in order that the opinion I had given might be confirmed or set aside. My colleague, Dr. Mott, was requested to see the case with me—and his examination corroborated in every particular the opinion previously expressed. I continued to visit this unfortunate lady, and do all in my power to assuage her anguish; her sufferings were most severe, but she bore them with the fortitude and resignation of a Christian. Her mind had become satisfied with the opinions that had been given; and believing that there was no earthly hope, she was reconciled to die. Just at this time, a kind friend put into her hands a pamphlet recounting "wonderful cases of cure of all sorts of maladies by Mesmerism." This poor creature, weighed down by suffering, her form attenuated to a skeleton, her mind enfeebled, and her reason rendered infirm by protracted and agonizing disease—unable, of course, to form a competent judgment on any subject, placed the fullest faith in the statements set forth in the pamphlet; and, at her earnest solicitation, the mesmerizer was sent for. After the first act of his jugglery, he informed her that the doctors were altogether deceived as to her disease—she had no cancer, but labored simply, as he termed it, under a '*concatenation of visceral deficiency*'!! This 'concatenation of visceral deficiency,' he pledged himself promptly to remove, and restore her to perfect health. The friends of the sufferer, passing as she was rapidly to the grave, although they had no confidence in the declarations of the heartless impostor, could not resist the fervent appeals of the dying woman; and he was, therefore, permitted to practise his unholy tricks. Day after day he continued his mesmeric operations, promising with renewed emphasis a speedy recovery. One morning, however, on arriving at the house, and proceeding to the room of his victim, he was accosted by the nurse, who informed him that the patient had expired the night before! Unmoved by this disclosure, and with perfect indifference, lost as he was to every feeling of humanity, he left the house without a word of comment, satisfied in his own mind that he had obtained the object for which he had consented to desecrate his character—*the wages of his wretched deception.* The God of truth and justice will assuredly deny mercy to a

man who could thus wantonly revel over the credulity of a dying and suffering woman"!

The lecture concludes with sage counsels to the young men who are entering upon the cultivation of the profession, so full of critical emergencies and fearful responsibilities; judiciously admonishing them against being content with superficial attainments in view of the profound and thorough qualifications which can alone fit them for their chosen calling, or enable them to honor their Alma Mater by giving evidence that they have profited by the instructions of the University, whose alumni alone are to be the representatives of the ability and success of its Faculty.

HYDROPATHY.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

A REPUBLICATION from the British and Foreign Medical Review, entitled "The Water Cure, or Hydropathy, by John Forbes, M.D., F.R.S.," the article being editorial, has lately been sent forth by Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. Dr. Forbes is of late earnestly seeking the reputation of a *liberal* in his profession, and jeopards his character for medical orthodoxy by the widest latitudinarianism. Protesting his firm adhesion to rational science, and sternly vindicating the paramount claims of scholastic medicine, he nevertheless seeks to augment our ancient stock of knowledge, by superadding, under the title of "Young Physic," whatever of novelty he fancies to discover in modern forms of transcendentalism.

In his well-meant efforts at liberalism, by blowing hot and cold with the same breath, he shares the fate of the satyr; and indeed is as unsuccessful as was the senior in the fable of "the man, the boy and the ass." In his former publication, in his anxiety to find a few grains of wheat in the bushel of chaff which Hahnemann has bequeathed to his disciples, he was betrayed into so sad departures from the principles of rational medicine, that he had to make haste with his apologetory retraction to place himself *rectus in curia*, by a labored effort to define his position. And in this somewhat similar article, he so far commits himself to this school of exclusives, by endorsing the marvels of the disciples of Priessnitz, that despite of the lesson taught him in his brief experience in time-serving, he has justly entitled himself to another disclaimer, which will doubtless soon be forthcoming.

It is ever thus in science, as in religion, when men suffer themselves to be "driven about by every wind of doctrine," or, which is the same thing for their reputation for consistency, attempt to "serve two masters," or, on great questions of antagonist theories and rival parties, strive to keep fair weather with both sides. It is to resemble the sailor who prayed in a storm, first to his Maker, and then to the devil, assigning as a reason that he knew not whose hands he might fall into, and hence sought peace with both.

As of homœopathy, so of hydropathy, if either be true, or have any claims whatever as a system of theory or practice in the healing art, then

it follows, *quod erat demonstrandum*, that the entire fabric of rational medicine is a tissue of fallacy, and all the remedies which have been derived therefrom are worse than worthless, because positively mischievous and destructive, their extraordinary cures having been only extraordinary escapes, though multiplied for centuries in myriads of cases, and daily repeated all over the civilized world. For, let it be remembered, that both systems harmonize in launching anathemas at every active remedial agent in the materia medica, without exception, and while one actually reprobates all drugs, the other virtually does so by infinitesimal dilutions. Both systems alike concur in repudiating "all the learned lumber of the schools," and claim, the one for medicated *sugar of milk*, and the other for simple *water*, all the preventive and curative power which has ever been conferred upon mortals, in resisting the approach of disease and death.

In this work Dr. Forbes commits the capital error of conceding to hydropathy the discovery of the uses and capabilities of water as a remedial agent. He never reminds the sect that even in their *exclusive* employment of the water cure they have been anticipated a thousand years by a sect of physicians whose name as well as practice they have only resuscitated, not invented. Nor does he once enlighten them touching the long catalogue of worthies in the ancient as well as modern records of the profession, who have tested both the uses and capabilities of water both for prevention and cure. In the writings of Hippocrates, Celsus, Boerhaave, and even in Sydenham and Currie, Dr. Forbes ought to know that the value of water, cold and hot, within and without, as an auxiliary in the treatment of disease, is dwelt upon with argument and illustrated by examples, so that all which he yields to hydropathy belongs to rational medicine. Whatever is true in the system is not new; whatever is new in the system is not true. Its exclusiveness, and indiscriminate application, is the only novelty claimed by the sect, and yet even this belongs not to them, but to the hydrosudopathists of by-gone centuries; and this, too, Dr. Forbes condemns, by pleading for the use of the lancet and drugs, and only allowing the water cure to be an humble auxiliary to more active treatment, the precise rank it has held from time immemorial.

But yet this article of Dr. Forbes will be seized upon with avidity by the whole tribe of hydropathists as "confirmation strong as holy writ" that the water cure is the all-sufficient substitute for all the resources of the healing art. The qualifications and draw-backs with which this flattering notice abounds, will be ascribed to his prejudices of education, and forgiven on the plea that "it is hard to teach an old dog new tricks." But praise from such a source, despite of his preconceived and conceded prejudices, will be regarded as constrained homage, extorted by the merits of hydropathy. Such is the "bad eminence" to which Dr. Forbes has attained, and his fate should be a beacon to all trimmers and borderers in our profession.

R.

December, 1846.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, JANUARY 6, 1847.

Tenements of the Poor.—Not long since, a large public meeting was held in this city, to devise ways and means for providing the poor people of this crowded metropolis with better and cheaper tenements than they now have. We know not with whom the idea originated of aiding this class of citizens in this particular manner:—whoever it was, we honor his humanity, and sincerely hope that some great effort will be forthwith made to ameliorate the condition of cellar and garret occupants. One lamentable mistake was manifest at the meeting, viz. obliging the assembly to listen to an almost interminably long report. The thread of statistical poverty was spun too fine and too long for the patience of a popular assembly, however necessary minute details may be in a pamphlet, to impress the public with the urgency of the case. If gentlemen had been allowed to express themselves freely on the evils of wedging thirty families into one house, a vastly larger sea of benevolence would have been agitated on the occasion. However, in the multitude of labors that devolve upon a Christian community, having reference to promoting intelligence, religious accountability, cleanliness, health and happiness, some blunders will occur in the mode of doing things; but instead of wasting breath about these or any other defects, we much prefer to draw from the printed report some of the astounding statements relating to the habitations of the poor in the city of Boston.

1st, The present population of the first section, says the report, is nearly as dense as that of the central parts of London. *2d*, The number of individuals *to the house*, throughout the whole city, is greater than in the principal commercial and manufacturing towns of England. *3d*, The distribution of the population is shockingly unequal, producing crowds in certain sections, rarely surpassed. *4th*, The proportion of deaths among infants has been steadily increasing, and the average duration of life decreasing. *5th*, Infant mortality is vastly greater among Catholics, than in the whole population, and the average duration of life with them less. *6th*, The average of life in Boston is less than in London or Ireland. *7th*, The average duration of life among the Catholics of Boston, is less than that of operatives and laborers in the great cities of England.

These statements are gleaned from a document drawn up with great care, and it is enough to excite the attention of philanthropists. To what is this blighting mortality of infantile life to be attributed? The report declares that the bad—the miserably filthy, unventilated, dark, pig-stye houses of the poor, up the narrow lanes, under low brick arches, and under-ground places which they occupy, is the true cause of this sad waste of human beings. And the report is right,—for we can bear testimony to the truth of all its declarations, from years of observation. One curious fact more might have been added, viz. that some of the poor seem to prefer these abominable holes to better places. They would not be clean if they could. Here is a difficulty to be overcome when the new and

cheap tenements are provided, which were constructed, theoretically, with perfect convenience, by the committee,—and that is, to devise a way of keeping them clean, while in the occupancy of such dirt-loving tenants! Sickness, protracted diseases and death creep into these over-stocked houses, which would be depots of physical misery were they located in the centre of the Common. But how are tenants to be coaxed out,—or what landlord will refuse to let them, while they yield a better income than the palaces on Beacon street? The Committee treat the subject with a degree of feeling that commands our respect; and since the loss of life, to an alarming extent, is the lever by which the rich are to be moved to view the wretchedness of the poor when their humble dwellings are overfull, we most heartily pray that something may be done at once to better their domestic state.

Salivation produced by Gold Plates.—A sensible paper in the New York Dental Mirror on the salivation that is produced by wearing gold plates for sustaining artificial teeth, is worthy of extensive circulation. That an effect of this kind is induced in some persons, is beyond question, and the state of health has been seriously affected, without the cause being understood or even suspected. "The salivation produced by gold mountings for artificial teeth, is not mercurial, but is what we call galvanic salivation. This galvanic influence is undoubtedly produced by the action of a vitiated saliva upon the gold plate and solder which compose the mountings." Within our own circle of acquaintance we know of a case where the salivation has at times been a serious inconvenience, accompanied by nausea, and not unfrequently, active vomition. The individual frequently witnesses vivid flashes of light at the breakfast table, if the steel knife blade or a steel fork happens to strike against the new teeth. Dentists must look carefully into this matter, since it can be obviated very readily, by simply covering the seams of solder with gold, so that the saliva cannot come in contact with the inferior metal.

The Dental Mirror is a scientific, unpretending, yet deserving journal, edited by J. S. Ware, M. D. of the city of New York.

President Everett's Address.—At the time the new Medical College in Grove street, in this city, was dedicated, the President of the University made an address, which was much admired for its elevated sentiments and elegance of expression. In short, like every thing from President Everett, it was a sterling production. It has since been given to the public in a pamphlet, and therefore is accessible to all the admirers of that very finished scholar.

Dr. Hayward's Introductory Lecture.—On the interesting occasion of opening the new Medical College, Dr. Hayward gave a lecture, introductory to the first course of medical lectures in the fine structure just completed. The Professor of the Principles of Surgery and Clinical Surgery, has been so long and familiarly known to the medical profession, that it is not necessary to offer any observations upon his lectures or writings, with a view to calling the attention of readers. He is always sound, scientific and specific in his teachings. A committee of the class were permitted to publish this discourse in a pamphlet, which in a manner forbids us from

copying such parts as might be received with gratification by persons whom the pamphlet will never reach, as we might be accused thereby of trenching upon ground exclusively belonging to the Committee.

Reciprocal Obligations—Dr. Harrison's Address.—On the 2d of November, Dr. Harrison, a distinguished teacher in the Medical College of Ohio, addressed the students on the reciprocal obligations of the medical profession and society. His address, now published, is a creditable performance, and appropriate to the occasion. Hear this important truth:—"The medical profession cannot maintain its true relative position in society, unless physicians are men of education. The vulgarizing effect of deficient scholastic literature has already been felt. Special efforts should be made by every young man in the profession, whose primary education has been neglected, to repair his deficiencies by a sedulous addictedness of his powers to the acquisition of, at least, the elements of a good English education. The relation of the medical practitioner to society, imposes on him the obligation of a refinement of manners and purity of morals equal to the most polished exhibitions of character found in the best circles of social life. Whilst amenity should characterize his deportment, a scrupulous adherence to the rules of the most rigid code of ethics should be manifested by him in all his dealings with his fellow men."

Dr. Harrison next points out the duty of citizens generally, in their remuneration of self-sacrificing, devoted physicians, as a major part of them are; but it would be a useless expenditure of types, to copy from this part of his address, inasmuch as that portion of the people who neglect to pay their medical bills promptly, do not see the Journal. In any light in which Dr. Harrison's views may be examined, he stands out prominently a staunch moralist, and an apt instructer, and he must, we conceive, be a useful, happy man.

Progress of Phrenology.—Notwithstanding an almost universal apathy in this country upon a subject that within a few years occupied the thoughts of all the philosophers, and multitudes who thought themselves such, it seems to be germinating in new regions, where it may grow and flourish with more vigor than it ever did in places where it was planted personally by Gall and Spurzheim. At Buenos Ayres there is represented to be a phrenological professorship in the college of that city, connected with which is a fine collection of phrenological specimens. Mr. Geo. Combe, the only living European apostle of distinguished attainments in phrenology, who lectured in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, &c., has translated most of his works into German and French, and is now putting them into the Spanish and Italian languages, says Mr. Fowler's Journal. The sale of the Phrenological Almanac in 1846—a popular mode of disseminating the elements of the subject, a sort of sandwich for creating a reading appetite—exceeded 90,000, and it is presumed that 150,000 will be required to meet the demand in 1847. Mr. Fowler has entered upon the ninth volume of his American Journal of Phrenology, which is one of the most spirited, original periodicals in America. The heads of Melancthon and Tyndall, in No. 1 of the New Series, for January, accompanied as they are with analyses of their characters, deduced from craniological developments, are actually worth the price of a year's subscription.

Payment of Medical Witnesses.—It is gratifying to perceive that a reform has commenced in Europe in regard to the remuneration of physicians for services at courts of law. The following from the London Lancet exhibits instances which might sometimes be justly imitated in this country:—

"The assizes, which lately terminated generally through the country, afford the following good example reported in the Cork Constitution of August 4, 1846. 'His lordship (Judge Jackson) said he had received a memorial from Dr. Barry, of Kanturk, on the subject of remuneration to medical witnesses for their attendance at assizes. In reply, he would say, that on the Leinster circuit, Baron Pennefather ordered a physician residing in the country two guineas a-day while in attendance at the assizes, and Mr. Serjeant Stock had made the same decision at Limerick. He, therefore, would direct that Dr. Barry should receive two guineas a-day.' It is a new feature to have the public functionaries thus acknowledging that the services rendered by medical men to the crown should receive reasonable compensation; and I am happy to say that most, perhaps all, the medical men who were summoned to the late Cork assizes, on behalf of the crown, were treated with some measure of politeness and justice. One gentleman, who for many years had been summoned before the judges of assizes, and ofttimes had been detained from home for from ten to fourteen days, and who hitherto had never received more than five pounds for his attendance, on the last occasion, much to his amazement, was respectfully presented with twenty guineas."

Dr. Crain's Spino-Abdominal Supporter.—Readers are referred to the advertisement of a new instrument by Dr. Crain, which will be more particularly noticed hereafter.

Ossification of the Aortic Valves.—Mr. Law exhibited the heart of an out-patient of the infirmary, who died very suddenly while waiting to be seen by the surgeon, in consequence of a severe injury to the shoulder-joint some weeks before. He had made no complaint indicating heart-disease, excepting occasional asthmatic attacks of a very slight character. The aortic opening was nearly closed up by a complete mass of bone, there being only a small cleft through which the blood could pass. On inquiry afterwards, it was found that he had occasionally suffered from fainting fits; but he never complained of them at the Infirmary.—*Sheffield Pathological Society.*

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Dr. Dixon's paper on Stricture of the Urethra has been received.

DIED,—At Laporte, Indiana, Mr. Wm. Y. Standiford, a medical student of the University.—At Aiken, South Carolina, Dr. F. Wurdeman.—Dr. Tournay—residence not known. His body was recently found, having been drowned in the unfortunate steamer Atlantic.—At Varick, N. Y., Dr. John C. Goss—found murdered, the body being hidden in a hollow tree.

Report of Deaths in Boston—for the week ending Jan. 2d, 44.—Males, 22—females, 22.—Stillborn, 4. Of consumption, 4—convulsions, 2—dropsy on the brain, 1—child-bed, 2—infantile, 6—typhus fever, 2—dropsy, 1—inflammation of the lungs, 5—inflammation of the bowels, 3—teething, 1—lung fever, 3—croup, 1—disease of the brain, 2—tumor, 2—diabetes, 2—intemperance, 2—disease of the heart, 2—old age, 1—cancer, 1—burns, 1.

Under 5 years, 17—between 5 and 20 years, 5—between 20 and 40 years, 9—between 40 and 60 years, 7—over 60 years, 6.

Human Body converted to Chalk.—In digging a well in Lowndes County, Geo., about one mile from Florida line, the workmen found a human body completely converted to chalk. Although somewhat mutilated, parts were identified and carefully examined by gentlemen on the spot. Several teeth still remain in the jaw;—there is the appearance of three having been extracted while the individual was living. The body was imbedded in stiff clay, thirty feet from the surface, in a flat country, heavily covered with pine timber,—there being no streams of water within ten miles. A notion is entertained that this was an antediluvian.

Effects of Alcohol on the Animal Frame.—When alcohol is introduced into the circulation, its elements combine with the oxygen of arterial blood; and the globules, becoming thereby deprived of this vivifying principle, no longer assume a florid red color. The animal becomes asphyxiated; and if the quantity of alcohol be large, it dies as speedily as if it had been plunged into an atmosphere deprived of oxygen. Carnivorous animals, as the dog, which has a large stomach compared with the rest of the alimentary canal, are very easily affected by alcohol, and may be destroyed by a moderate dose; for the liquid is rapidly absorbed, and is not carried beyond the duodenum. Herbivorous rodentia, as rabbits, are, in like manner, easily killed by small quantities of alcohol. Absorption takes place rapidly in the stomach, and alcohol is not found in the intestines. Granivorous birds, such as chickens, will bear comparatively larger doses of alcohol. The inner cavity of their stomachs is of limited extent, and the organ itself is formed of powerful muscles. When alcohol is injected, it is soon expelled from this cavity, and is found in the intestines; it is thence carried to the liver by the vena portæ, and only reaches the great mass of circulation slowly. Fish will live at a temperature of 41 degrees in water which contains one half-hundreth part of alcohol.—*Dublin Medical Press*, from the *Comptes Rendus*.

Medical Miscellany.—Dr. J. J. Osmer has arrived at Washington, from Peru, in the character of Minister Plenipotentiary, the first ever sent from that republic to this country.—A disease called the black fever prevails in Haverford, Penn., which has excited some alarm on account of its being thought infectious.—Mr. Fowler, of the Phrenological Journal, says Animal Magnetism is gaining converts rapidly all over Europe. The Mesmeric fever has developed itself at Bombay, in India. Here, in New England, the mania is subsiding,—so that some who were stark mad with their one idea, begin to converse quite rationally on common topics.—Dr. John C. Goss, of Varick, N. Y. was missing some days, causing great anxiety in the community, and was subsequently found murdered.—The erection of a State Lunatic Hospital is proposed in Missouri.—Dr. Silas Holmes, of Bristol, R. I. goes out surgeon of the U. S. Ship Ohio.—Dr. Mc Manus, of St. Genevieve, Mo., has been fighting a duel, and was badly wounded by his antagonist.—Dysentery of a very fatal character is prevailing to a great extent in Mechlin and its neighborhood. It is reported, that in the village of Lippeloo, with a population of only 500 persons, there have been no less than 109 deaths, more than one-fifth having thus been cut off by the disease.